CNL-518 Benchmark Developmental Psychology Case Studies Paper

Research Methods and Program Evaluation (Grand Canyon University)

Scan to open on Studocu

Studocu is not sponsored or endorsed by any college or university
Downloaded by wayOFpsychology ON TELEGRAM (moinamb99@gmail.com)

SHOUT
SHARE
IT

Erikson and Piaget Case Studies and Summary

Andrea T. Farmer

College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Grand Canyon University

Life Span and Development CNL-518

Dr. Kelly Drye

September 11, 2024

This document is available on studocu

Downloaded by wayOFpsychology ON TELEGRAM (moinamb99@gmail.com)

Erikson and Piaget Case Studies and Summary

Erik Erikson and Jean Piaget have dissimilar stages of life and development. Piaget believed that children progressed through four cognitive stages and understood the world around them with schemes. Erikson's stages of early psychosocial development were developed as a series of eight stages, while Piaget focused on infancy through adulthood, Erikson focused on birth to death. I will demonstrate in the following four case studies how Erikson and Piaget's theories apply to School Counseling. Each case study will show how a child, (3-8 years old) is supposed to react to a specific setting based on the stage of the theory. Explanation of similarities and differences between Piaget's cognitive developmental theory of learning and Erikson's psychosocial stage theory will also be discussed in this paper.

Erikson's Initiative vs Guilt

Case Study 1:

Kail & Cavanaugh point out that in this stage of Erickson's theory most three- and four-year-olds take some responsibility for themselves they begin to identify with adults and their parents; play begins to have purpose as a child explores adult roles, they explore the environment on and ask questions about the world around them, they imagine the possibilities available to them. (Kail & Cavanaugh, 2022). Robert is a four-year-old child, he shows signs of will and self-control, as his mother Alisha was cooking dinner he wanted to reach for the hot pot on the stove, but understood the consequence of getting burned, he demonstrated self-control. He also shows signs of initiation as he chooses activities and spoke up when he did not want to play with a specific toy or activity. Robert wants to take control and shows the Initiative vs Guilt in wanting to negotiate with his mother on taking a bath later instead of when his mother wanted him to, when she did not allow him to choose his own time he begins to cry and shows signs of guilt.

Downloaded by wayOFpsychology ON TELEGRAM (moinamb99@gmail.com)

Counselors will need to foster a supportive environment where children can explore and take initiative without fear of excessive criticism or failure, encouraging activities that involve creativity and imagination, such as building with blocks, drawing, or role-playing will allow the counselor to build a relationship with the child. Counselors have recognized Erikson's ideas for their possible theoretical significance in counseling and psychosocial effectiveness in personality development. (Munley, 1975).

Erikson's Industry vs Inferiority

Case Study 2:

During the stage of industry vs. inferiority, a child is learning new skills, they productively navigate this stage, they feel useful and develop a sense of self-worth, in order for a child to feel industrious, they need to feel that they are capable and competent, if they do not have the opportunities to develop new skills, they may end up feeling inadequate or that they just aren't good enough. Samantha an eight-year-old girl, her mother Teresa works late hours and extra shifts at work, Samantha often stays with their neighbor, in the last few weeks Samantha started to lash out at her mother, she became withdrawn, she is usually happy however lately she has been defiant and keeping more to herself, and her grades are suffering as a result,

A school counselor begins to work with Samantha to get a better understanding of the change in her behavior to determine what is going on at home. She finds out that mom is working more, and longer hours and that the babysitter has been verbally abusive to her which causes her to shut down and cower, the counselor, takes the initiative to contact the mother to let her know what is happening and helps Samantha talk through her frustrations and creating a safe environment for her to express her feelings. Verbal abuse consists of threats shouting, yelling,

This document is available on studocu

Downloaded by wayOFpsychology ON TELEGRAM (moinamb99@gmail.com)

and screaming, critical comments with harsh one and passing nasty remarks, this will cause children mentally emotionally torture that has long lasting repercussions. (Khan & Khan, 2014).

Piaget's Preoperational Stage

Case Study: 3

Piaget believed that children remain egocentric throughout the preoperational stage. This means they cannot understand that other people think differently than them or that events that take place are not always related to them. (Kail & Cavanaugh, 2022). Anthony is a four-year-old boy that lives with his mom, dad, and older brother Ben. Anthony interacts with his brother by pretending to be a dinosaur and likes to play with Ben when he is around. Anthony believes that his stuffed dinosaur is his best friend and carries it with him everywhere he goes, He says it keeps him safe, Anthony can communicate with his parents and sibling letting them know his wants and needs, will get upset with them if they do not see things the way he does especially when it comes to his stuffed dinosaur. Anthony believes that his stuffy is the best, but his parents do not interact like his older brother Ben, Anthony will become agitated and get upset because they do not play with him like Ben does. His parents have gotten concerned about his behavior and feel they should take him to see a counselor, the counselor should discuss pretend play with the parents and how it is important for increasing his cognitive abilities and his language skills.

Piaget's Concrete-Operational Stage

Case Study: 4

Piaget theorized that at this stage, children further develop and master abstract thought and become less egocentric. They can now understand that events do not always relate to them and that others have different points of view. (Kail & Cavanaugh,2022). Scott is a seven-year-old boy that lives with his dad. He is a typical boy that has lots of energy and likes to run and play

Downloaded by wayOFpsychology ON TELEGRAM (moinamb99@gmail.com)

sports, he attends the 1st grade, he likes to socialize with other children in his class and learns alongside them daily. Scott is on the local soccer team, his teammates tend to notice that Scott is always a little hyper at games and has a tough time sitting still, he gets excited to be at the games and is ready to play. Scott's dad makes sure to take time to practice with him on his days off and is at every game to support him. However, in school Scott struggles with staying focused and sometimes gets in trouble for not staying in his seat, he tries to find ways to focus and calm himself to ensure that he is not distracting those around him, his teacher also notices that Scott may need help with this and suggests a meeting with his dad and the school counselor. When meeting with the counselor he or she might suggest placing Jaxson on a 504-plan giving him accommodations for him in the classroom to help him focus and excel in school.

Similarities and Differences between Piaget and Erikson's Theories

Erik Erikson and Jean Piaget both have made an impact on how mental health professionals understand child development. Both Erikson and Piaget believed that children develop through stages or milestones; however, Erikson believed that children developed their whole lifespan from birth to death and Piaget only from infancy to adolescence. Erikson and Piaget both determined that it is nurture that develops the personality, rather than nature. (Kail & Cavanaugh, 2022). Conn pointed out that, Jean Piaget and Erik Erikson have been two of the psychological theorists in the English speaking world that have been influential, Piaget is best known for his contributions in the area of child psychology, on the topic of cognitive development, Erikson is best known as a child psychologist, working freely within a general Freudian frame of reference, but Erikson has concentrated on the other major aspect of personal development ″psychosocial" dimension. (Conn, 1977).

This document is available on studocu

Downloaded by wayOFpsychology ON TELEGRAM (moinamb99@gmail.com)

Conclusion

I have demonstrated in the following four case studies how Erikson and Piaget's theories apply to School Counseling. Each case study will show how a child, (3-8 years old) is supposed to react to a specific setting based on the stage of the theory. Explanation of similarities and differences between Piaget's cognitive developmental theory of learning and Erikson's psychosocial stage theory were also discussed in this paper.

Downloaded by wayOFpsychology ON TELEGRAM (moinamb99@gmail.com)

References

Conn, W. E. (1977). Personal identity and creative self-understanding: contributions of Jean Piaget and Erik Erikson to the psychological foundations of theology. *Journal of Psychology & Theology*, *5*(1), 34–39.

Kail, R. V., & Cavanaugh, J. C. (2022). *Human development: A life-span view* (9th ed.). Cengage Learning. ISBN-13: 9780357657959

Khan, P., & Khan, W. (2014). Verbal Abuse in Schools and Its Devastating Impact on Child Psychology. *Putaj Humanities & Social Sciences*, *21*(1), 109–114.

Munley, P. H. (1975). Erik Erikson's theory of psychosocial development and vocational behavior. *Journal of Counseling Psychology*, *22*(4), 314–319. https://doi-org.lopes.idm.oclc.org/10.1037/h0076749

This document is available on studocu

Downloaded by wayOFpsychology ON TELEGRAM (moinamb99@gmail.com)